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DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it not a fact that many Tamilians from Ramanathapuram and Tirunelveli emigrated to Ceylon surreptitiously for want of employment in the State?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Again, Sir, I cannot answer this question because this Government have no information on this matter.

*Industrial Estate*

* 325 *Q*.—SRI M. ETHIRAJALU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to establish an Industrial Estate at Vridhachalam; and

(*b*) if so, the stage at which the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) & (*b*) A scheme for the establishment of an industrial estate for ceramic industry at Vridhachalam, South Arcot district, has been sanctioned by the Government recently.

SRI K. V. RAMASWAMY : இந்தத் தொழிற்பேட்டைகளைக் கோவையில் நிறுவுவதாக இருக்கிறதே, அது விஷயமாகத் தகவல் தெரியுமா ?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : அங்கே வைப்பதாக ஒரு யோசனை இருக்கிறது.

SRI K. V. RAMASWAMY : எந்த இடத்தில் என்று சொல்ல முடியுமா ?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : இப்போது வந்திருக்கிற அவர்களுடைய கோரிக்கைப்படி கோவையில் வைப்பதாக இருக்கிறது.

*State Transport Department*

* 326 *Q*.—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any driving experience has been prescribed as a qualification for appointment as drivers in the State Transport Department, and if so, what it is;

(*b*) whether there has been any reduction recently in the period of driving experience for the above appointment; and

(*c*) if so, what it is and the reasons for such reduction?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) to (*c*) Prior to 14th June 1961, a candidate for appointment as driver in the Madras State Transport Department should have three years experience in driving heavy motor vehicles, amongst other qualifications. This requirement has since been reduced to 18 months, as difficulties were experienced in getting the required number of

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drivers to man the services with three-year qualification. Appointments in the Madras State Transport Department are however made only after giving intensive training to those who are below standard.

Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : When the owner of a private pleasure car needs a driver with at least five years' experience, is it good on the part of the Government to engage people who had not had much of driving experience and entrust their costly vehicle as well as the lives of the passengers to the tender care of the untrained people?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : So far as the State is concerned, they take every care to see that competent men are chosen. I do not think that competence depends only on experience. It depends on a number of factors and we have now decided to reduce the period to 18 months and give them, at the same time, intensive training in our own workshop.

Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it a fact that some of the drivers expressed their inexperience when they were confronted with prosecution due to accidents and when legal proceedings were taken by the traffic department?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : We have no such information, Sir.

**Sri M. ETHIRAJALU :** *சார், சர்க்கார் உத்தியோகத்தில் இருப்பவர் 55 வயதுக்குமேல் ஓய்வு பெறவேண்டுமென்று இருக்கிறது. ஆனால் இந்த கவர்ன்மெண்ட் டிரான்ஸ்போர்ட்டில் இருக்கிற டிரைவர்கள் 55 வயதுக்கு மேற்பட்டும் இருப்பதற்கு ஏதாவது அனுமதி அளிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறதா ? 55-க்கு மேல் அவர்கள் டிரைவர்களாக இருக்கக்கூடாது என்று சர்க்காரிலே சட்டம் செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறதா ?*

**The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN :** *சர்க்காரிலே இருக்கக் கூடிய விதிகள், டெக்னிகல், இஞ்சினியரிங் இந்தமாதிரி இலாகா வாக இருந்தால், அதில் 55 வயதுக்கு மேல்கூட ஒவ்வொரு வருஷத்திற்கும், அவர்களுக்கு எக்ஸ்டென்ஷன் இல்லே, ரீ எம்ப் ளாய்மெண்ட் கொடுக்கலாம் என்று உத்திரவு இருக்கிறது. அதே உத்திரவு டிரான்ஸ்போர்ட்டுக்கும் 'அப்ளை' ஆகும்.*

Dr. A. SREENIVASAN : When such persons are re-employed, is a physical fitness examination carried out before re-employment?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN : Most certainly, yes, Sir.

Sri S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Was there complaint about the rashness of the drivers in the City of Madras and, if so, will that be due to this want of experience and relaxation of rules relating to their qualifications?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It is always a loose and vague complaint about every section of employees, whether it is drivers or Government servants or Ministers or legislators.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Why do you club yourself with drivers?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : These vague complaints are always heard. I do not think we should make it a point to bring it to the legislature unless there are specific cases.

*Central Medical Stores, Madras*

* 327 *Q.*—SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that medicine was not supplied to the local fund hospitals in Tiruchirappalli district for the last six months from the Central Medical Stores, Madras; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) & (*b*) The supplies have since been made.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : *எத்தனை மாதங்கள் இந்த மருந்துகள் கொடுக்கப்படாமல் இருந்தன என்று மந்திரி அவர்களுக்குத் தெரியுமா ?*

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Only a few months. For instance, I may give the case of the local fund dispensary at Arambavoor. They put in an indent on the 28th August 1960. That was returned for rectification of certain mistakes, and for furnishing more particulars. That was returned only in August 1961, after about a year. That is the solitary case where there was delay. In other cases, it is only a question of a few months. In cases where medicine is required urgently, the officers have the discretion to get quotations from reputable local firms and purchase the medicine.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. Minister tell us whether the amount fixed for purchase of medicines for the local fund dispensaries has been raised recently?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : I want notice about it. But I find here that some of the local fund dispensaries have purchased medicines for Rs. 2,200, Rs. 2,500, Rs. 2,700, Rs. 1,900 and in one case, Turaiyur, they have purchased for Rs. 3,000.

SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : *சென்ட்ரல் மெடிகல் ஸ்டோரில் ஸ்டாக் இல்லை என்ற காரணத்தால், இந்த டிஸ்பென்சரிகளுக்கு மருந்து சப்ளை சரியாக செய்யப்படவில்லை என்பது அரசாங்கத்திற்குத் தெரியுமா ?*